



Economic Impact Analysis Virginia Department of Planning and Budget

22 VAC 40-670 – Degree Requirements for Social Work/Social Work Supervision
Department of Social Services
January 21, 2009

Summary of the Proposed Amendments to Regulation

The Board of Social Services (Board) proposes to amend and consolidate social work job categories in the regulations that govern degree requirements for social workers.

Result of Analysis

The benefits likely exceed the costs for all proposed changes.

Estimated Economic Impact

Current Board regulations contain seven categories of social work employees:

- 1) Senior Social Work Supervisor,
- 2) Social Work Supervisor,
- 3) Principle Social Worker,
- 4) Child Protective Services Worker II,
- 5) Senior Social Worker,
- 6) Child Protective Services Worker I and
- 7) Social Worker.

This classification system has been in place since the early 1980's

The Board proposes to amend these job classifications so that Senior Social Work Supervisors will just be called Social Work Supervisors, Social Work Supervisors will have the new title Social Worker IV, Principle Social Workers will be called Social Worker III and a Child Protective Services Worker II will be a Social Worker II. Individuals who now hold the

titles of Senior Social Worker, Child Protective Services Worker I and Social Worker will, under this proposal, fall under the category of Social Worker I.

The Department of Social Services (DSS) reports that these changes in classification are a housekeeping matter and will not affect social worker salaries; no employees of local Departments of Social Services are likely to incur salary reductions on account of these proposed changes. Affected entities and other interested individuals may gain some small benefit from having job titles corrected in these regulations.

Businesses and Entities Affected

These proposed regulations will affect all 120 local Departments of Social Services.

Localities Particularly Affected

No locality will be particularly affected by this proposed regulatory action.

Projected Impact on Employment

This regulatory action will likely have no impact on employment in the Commonwealth.

Effects on the Use and Value of Private Property

This regulatory action will likely have no effect on the use or value of private property in the Commonwealth.

Small Businesses: Costs and Other Effects

Small businesses in the Commonwealth are unlikely to incur any costs on account of this regulatory action.

Small Businesses: Alternative Method that Minimizes Adverse Impact

Small businesses in the Commonwealth are unlikely to incur any costs on account of this regulatory action.

Real Estate Development Costs

This regulatory action will likely have no effect on real estate development costs in the Commonwealth.

Legal Mandate

The Department of Planning and Budget (DPB) has analyzed the economic impact of this proposed regulation in accordance with Section 2.2-4007.H of the Administrative Process Act and Executive Order Number 36 (06). Section 2.2-4007.H requires that such economic impact analyses include, but need not be limited to, the projected number of businesses or other entities to whom the regulation would apply, the identity of any localities and types of businesses or other entities particularly affected, the projected number of persons and employment positions to be affected, the projected costs to affected businesses or entities to implement or comply with the regulation, and the impact on the use and value of private property. Further, if the proposed regulation has adverse effect on small businesses, Section 2.2-4007.H requires that such economic impact analyses include (i) an identification and estimate of the number of small businesses subject to the regulation; (ii) the projected reporting, recordkeeping, and other administrative costs required for small businesses to comply with the regulation, including the type of professional skills necessary for preparing required reports and other documents; (iii) a statement of the probable effect of the regulation on affected small businesses; and (iv) a description of any less intrusive or less costly alternative methods of achieving the purpose of the regulation. The analysis presented above represents DPB's best estimate of these economic impacts.